

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for representing list information in a markup language document, comprising:
 - determining properties corresponding to a list that relates to at least one section of an application document;
 - mapping the properties of the list into at least one of a markup language element, an attribute, and a value; and
 - storing the properties of the list in the markup language document.
2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising determining whether the list is a picture bulleted list.
3. The method of Claim 2, wherein a specified element and attribute are included to store the picture bullet image information and picture bullet identifier when the list is a picture bullet list.
4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising determining whether the list is a new list within the application document, wherein the list is a new list when the application document includes a previously presented list within the document.
5. The method of Claim 4, further comprising providing a list override such that the instances and definitions of the new list and the previously presented list are separated when stored in the ML file.
6. The method of Claim 1, wherein mapping the properties further comprises mapping a level tag that corresponds to the level of an item within a list.
7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the level tag allows the list to define the indentation of a level and the character used to represent the level.

8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
determining properties corresponding to an additional list that relates to at least one section of the application document;
mapping the properties of the additional list into at least one of a markup language element, an attribute, and a value;
including a list override to separate the instance of the list and the additional list; and
storing the properties of the additional list in the markup language document.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the properties of the list stored in the markup language document are understood by an application that understands the markup language when the list is not native to the application.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the markup language document is manipulated on a server to substantially reproduce the list of the application document notwithstanding the presence of an application that generated the markup language document.

11. A computer-readable medium for representing list definitions and instances in a markup language document, comprising:
determining properties relating to a list used within a word-processing document;
determining whether the list is a new list that follows a previously determined list;
including a list override when the list is a new list such that the instance of the list is separated from the instance of the previously determined list;
writing the properties into at least one of a markup language element, an attribute, and a value; and

storing the properties in the markup language document such that the list is substantially maintained when the markup language document is parsed by an application.

12. The computer-readable medium of Claim 11, wherein the properties of the list stored in the markup language document are understood by an application that understands the markup language when the list is not native to the application.

13. The computer-readable medium of Claim 11, wherein the markup language document is manipulated on a server to substantially reproduce the list of the word-processing document notwithstanding the presence of an application that generated the markup language document.

14. The computer-readable medium of Claim 11, further comprising determining whether the list is a picture bulleted list.

15. The computer-readable medium of Claim 14, wherein a specified element and attribute are included to store the picture bullet image information and picture bullet identifier when the list is a picture bullet list.

16. A system for representing list definitions and instances in a markup language document, comprising:

an application that is configured to:

determine properties relating to a list included in at least one section of an application document;

map the properties into at least one of a markup language element, an attribute, and a value; and

store the properties in the markup language document; and

a validation engine configured to validate the markup language document.

17. The system of Claim 16, wherein the properties of the list stored in the markup language document are understood by an additional application that understands the markup language when the list is not native to the additional application.

18. The system of Claim 16, wherein the markup language document is manipulated on a server to substantially reproduce the list of the word-processing document notwithstanding the presence of the application that generated the markup language document.

19. The system of Claim 16, wherein the application is further configured to determine whether the list is a picture bulleted list.

20. The system of Claim 19, wherein a specified element and attribute are included to store the picture bullet image information and picture bullet identifier when the list is a picture bullet list.

21. The system of Claim 16, wherein the application is further configured to determine whether the list is a new list within the application document, wherein the list is a new list when the application document includes another list previously presented within the document.

22. The method of Claim 16, wherein the application is further configured to provide a list override such that the instances and definitions of each list are separated when stored in the ML file.